

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 05010 151156Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00
ACDA-12 SSM-03 /100 W
-----034068 151158Z /14

O 151033Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2588
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BIERUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE
USMISSION SINAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 5010

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, UNSC, IS, LE
SUBJECT: ERSKINE'S REMARKS REGARDING UNIFIL RESPONSIBILITIES

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1. AP REPORT DATELINED TAIBA, LEBANON, APRIL 14 DESCRIBES
PULLBACK OF IDF IN THAT AREA ON FRIDAY AND ITS REPLACEMENT
BY NEPALESE TROOPS. THE REPORT STATES THAT UNIFIL COM-
MANDER GENERAL ERSKINE WAS PRESENT FOR THE ARRIVAL OF
THE NEPALESE TROOPS AND HE IS QUOTED AS SAYING HIS
TROOPS HAD NOT BEEN ORDERED TO PREVENT PALESTINIANS
FROM RETURNING TO SOUTHERN LEBANON, "BUT ARMED PER-

SONNEL ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO COME HERE."

2. WE WOULD HOPE THIS STATEMENT, IF ACCURATELY REPORTED, COULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF WALDHEIM, SIILASVUO, AND ERSKINE. THIS KIND OF PUBLIC STATEMENT IS SEIZED UPON BY ISRAELIS AND QUOTED BACK TO US AS JUSTIFICATION AND ARGUMENT AGAINST THEIR WITHDRAWAL.

3. WE REALIZE THAT ERSKINE'S REPORTED STATEMENT IS TECHNICALLY CONSISTENT WITH THE WORDING OF DAYAN'S LETTER OF APRIL 14 TO WALDHEIM (SEE USUN 1453) IN WHICH THE GOI SET FORTH ITS UNDERSTANDING OF UNIFIL OPERATIONS: "UNIFIL WILL PREVENT THE ENTRY OR THE RETURN INTO THE AREA OF ARMED MEMBERS OR UNITS OF THE SO-CALLED PLO". NEVERTHELESS, THE RATHER DEFENSIVE TONE AND WISHY-WASHY NATURE OF ERSKINE'S REMARKS WILL BE NOTED HERE.
LEWIS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, TRAVEL CONTROLS, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: MOPS, IS, LE, UNSC, UNIFIL, PLO
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Review Markings:
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